

Assembly Committee on Education September 7, 2017

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Testimony in support of AB 477

Thank you Chairman Thiesfeldt and members of the Committee for the opportunity to submit brief comments in support of Assembly Bill 477. The Department thanks the Committee for engaging in several discussion with the Department during their red tape review. AB 477 is a product of that discussion and we appreciate the committee continuing its work on this legislation.

AB 477 effectively cleans up Administrative Code by eliminating unnecessary regulations on how supplemental aid is calculated, since it is already prescribed in statute and only one school district receives the aid.

In changing the language used to determine eligibility for receiving supplemental aid from enrollment to membership, other categories of pupils that meet the statutory definition of "membership" but do not meet the current rule definition for "enrollment" would be captured in calculating total eligibility for receiving supplemental aid. It is possible that aid eligibility under the program may increase as a result of the bill.

The Department would like to thank the author and the Legislative Reference Bureau for their assistance in drafing this bill.